

REPORT OF THE BIRLA INDUSTRIAL & TECHNOLOGICAL MUSEUM
FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY TO NOVEMBER, 1964

Achievements of the institution

Visitors :

1964

Number of visitors to the museum during the period was 1,32,974. The figure includes the following :

1. 292 organized groups covering 10784 students from various institutions from different parts of the country.
2. 17,743 persons attended the 170 scientific and technical film shows.

New Gallery

Mining : The tenth gallery 'Mining' was inaugurated by Shri A.K. Sen, Union Minister for Law and Social Security, on June 27, 1964. The gallery depicts the history of the development of mining with special emphasis on present day techniques. It has been arranged through static and working models, paintings, grill works, explanatory posters, etc. It contains many exhibits on the development of the systems of mine support, mineral getting, ore transportation, mine ventilation, underground illumination and mine pumps, etc. Some of the interesting models displayed in the gallery are : Surface layout of a mine; Shaft sinking; Pick mining; Shot-hole drilling; Underground arch support, etc. At present there are 65 exhibits in the gallery.

Renovation of Petroleum Gallery

The gallery, Petroleum, has been completely renovated during the period under review.

Besides the above two galleries, display arrangements etc. of other existing eight galleries namely, Iron & Steel; Copper; Popular Science; Nuclear Physics; Motive Power; Electricity; Television & Electronics; and Communication have also been improved.

Collections :

During the period under review, the museum was enriched by the acquisitions of a considerable number of models and exhibits and most of these were gift from institutions and firms in India and abroad.

Work done in the Museum :

- a. Models, diagrams and animated models ...
- b. Designs, drawings and tracing made for models, dioramas, animated models, pedestals, stands, cabinets etc.
- c. Cabinets, pedestals, stands etc. ...
- d. Maintenance work involving repair, installation, writing of caption

PROFORMA 'A'

(Please fill in numbers against each item as on November 30, 1963 and return the proforma with other information)

1. Research papers published in		
Indian Journals		Nil
Foreign Journals		
2. Patents Filed :		
In India		
In Other Countries		Nil
3. Books, monographs, symposia proceedings, reports and other publications		Nil
4. Name of periodicals and their frequency		Nil
5. Processes utilised by industry for production during the year		Nil
6. Processes Leased to industry		N
On royalty/premia basis		
Free of cost		Nil
7. Processes ready for industrial utilization during the year		Nil
8. CSIR Research Fellows working :		Nil
Senior		
Junior		
9. Non-CSIR Research Fellows/ Scholars working		: Nil
10. Scientists' Pool Officers		Nil
11. Retired Scientists		Nil
12. Staff :		
Scientific (Junior Scientific Assistant and above)		Nil
Auxiliary (Technical)		90
Administrative & House Keeping		35
Class IV		
Class IV Technical	-	25
Class IV Non-Technical	-	35
		<u>60</u>
		Total : 185

Library :

Purchase of books will be accelerated so as to increase the stock of books there after the library will be opened to the public.

Other educational functions of the Museum :

Six popular lectures for the students on different subjects of science and technology have been arranged in the current financial year out of which three have already been held. The subjects were 'Mysteries of Universe' and 'Man's Conquest of Space'.

It is also proposed to start special demonstration course for teachers of science of the High Schools according to a pre-arranged programme.

A portable housing for telescope has been set up on the roof of the building and arrangements will be made for regular demonstration of heavenly bodies.

Science Exhibition :

In order to bring science to the door of the common man with the help of the existing facilities in this museum, it has been decided that popular science exhibition will be arranged at a few places outside Calcutta.

Fixation of rent for hiring of the Birla Industrial & Technological Museum Auditorium by the educational institutions, societies, etc.

Requests are being received from the Government departments, autonomous organisations, educational institutions, societies etc. to make available the auditorium of Birla Industrial & Technological Museum for holding their official meetings, conferences, symposiums of academic interest. It has been decided to give on hire the auditorium to official and recognised organisations on payment of a rent of Rs. 50/- per day.

Sale of Guide Book and Photographs of Museum Exhibits :

Requests are being received from the students and interested persons for photographs of the museum exhibits. As such it has been decided to publish photographs of the museum exhibits and guide to the museum which may also be sold at a nominal price of Rs. 0.50 np. each.

Information on acquisition of land and progress of building construction :

a. Final acquisition proceedings in respect of plot of land at No. 9, Gurusaday Road will be completed within December. It is expected that possession of the plot may be given to the museum by the beginning of the next financial year.

b. A three-storied building has been constructed on a plinth of 1,500 sq.ft. for having a workshop store and garage on the ground floor, a chowkidars' quarters on the first floor and a caretaker's quarters on the second floor. The building has been occupied on 10th July 1963.

Particulars of foreign aid including financial contribution, equipment, services of experts and training facilities received or promised during the year :

No foreign aid including financial contribution, equipment, services of experts or training facilities received from outside.

Research projects sponsored by other organisations

So far, no research work has been undertaken.

Setting up of any research division, section, unit or laboratory, etc.

This museum is not carrying out any research work and as such there is no possibility in the immediate future of setting up of any research division or unit in this museum.

Appointments, promotions, resignations (Assistant Director and above), Honours, Awards, Deputations and Fellowships for studies abroad of members of the staff

Nil

Visit abroad:

Shri S.K. Ghose, f Senior most Curator of the museum, has been given 280 days leave for joining the Harvard University for the post-graduate studies in engineering.

Staff position :

Break up of the appointment in the museum during 1st January to 30th November, 1963 :

Gazetted (Technical)

Gazetted (Administration)

1. Shri C.S. Pai, Curator
(Popular Science)

Nil

Non-gazetted (Technical)

Photographer	-	1
Painter	-	1
Welder	-	1
Electrical Overseer	-	1
Senior Mechanic	-	1

Non-Gazetted (Administration)

Junior Stenographer	-	1	Peon	-	1
Store Clerk	-	1	Watchman	-	1
Lower Division Clerk	-	1	Sweeper	-	1